



Statewide priorities fund

Purpose

The purpose of this program is to support statewide priorities addressed in board-approved institutional business plans, the Council's Double the Numbers Plan, and the Public Agenda for Postsecondary and Adult Education.

The program will provide institutions with a source of recurring funding targeted to specific statewide needs. Areas of strategic interest are:

- Research support
- Regional stewardship
- Workforce development
- Transfer
- STEM
- College outreach and extension
- Graduate education
- Academic quality
- Student and faculty diversity
- Support and access for adult learners

How it works

If approved, a total of \$15 million will be appropriated to the public postsecondary institutions in 2008-09, with an additional \$10 million in 2009-10.

Funding will be distributed to institutions based upon their proportionate share of total public funds (General Fund appropriations minus mandated programs and debt service plus tuition and fee revenue).

Institutions must submit plans to the Council outlining use of funds and outcome measures. Draft guidelines for the plans will be presented to the Council in winter 2008.

Measuring success

Institutional outcomes will be reviewed by the Council annually and reported to the Interim Joint Committee on Appropriations and Revenue, the Interim Joint Committee on Education, the Strategic Committee on Postsecondary Education, and the Legislative Research Commission.

This process will provide an opportunity to assess satisfactory progress for the intended strategic investment and will determine future funding.

Highlights

- **New funding of \$15 million in 2008-09 and an additional \$10 million in 2009-10.**
- **Funds will target some of the state's most pressing needs, such as producing more STEM graduates, increasing two- to four-year transfers, and providing support for nontraditional adult college students.**